



Placer County Health and Human Services Department

Jeffrey S. Brown, M.P.H., M.S.W.
Department Director

Robert L. Oldham, M.D., M.S.H.A.
Director, Public Health
Public Health Officer

Musau WaKabongo, Ph.D., PHM, HCLD
Laboratory Director
mwakabon@placer.ca.gov

October 14, 2015

Dear Health Care Provider:

Thank you for participating in the 2014-2015 Influenza Surveillance Program. The official start of the 2015-16 influenza season is October 4, 2015 according to the California Department of Public Health (http://www.cdph.ca.gov/HealthInfo/discond/Documents/2015-16_CDPH_Influenza%20Guidance_FINAL.pdf)

Placer County Public Health is a member of the California Sentinel Provider Influenza Surveillance Program.

CDPH encourages submission of respiratory specimens for free-of-charge testing at the Placer County Public Health Laboratory. Please note that this testing is for surveillance purposes (not diagnostic) and the results will be sent back to providers as soon as they are available.

The Placer County Public Health Laboratory will provide the following:

- Specimen Collection Kits and instruction on their use.
- Pick up of specimens when needed.
- Laboratory testing results via mailed test reports.

For questions, information, and instructions regarding submission of respiratory specimens for surveillance testing, please contact the Placer County Public Health Lab at 530-889-7205 (ask to speak with the Microbiologist in the Virology section) or via email at phlab@placer.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

M. WaKabongo

Musau WaKabongo, Ph.D., PHM, HCLD/CC(ABB)
Laboratory Director
County of Placer Health and Human Services
Public Health Laboratory

11475 C Avenue
Auburn, CA 95603
Telephone: (530) 889-7205
Fax: (530) 889-7209